



Town of Warren, Rhode Island

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## Minutes of the Economic Development Board

The Town of Warren, RI Economic Development Board met at a Special Meeting on March 4, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. at Warren Town Hall (Senior Center). The presiding officer was Karen Dionne. Board members present were Sara Volino, Kathy Tucciarone, Mark Lombardi, Ben Terry and Christine Lichatz. Spencer Morris was absent. Mo Clare, Economic Development Coordinator, was in attendance. Joanne Demers from the USDA was in attendance. Davison Bolster was present at the meeting as a guest. Kristin MacDonald was present at the meeting to serve as Secretary to the EDB.

### **1. Meeting with Joann Demars from the USDA to plan the town clean-up in anticipation of the RI Preservation Conference (April 26, 2014)**

Together with Ms. Demars, the board discussed the plan for a town clean-up for the upcoming RI Preservation Conference scheduled for April 26, 2014.

Mr. Clare reported that Citizens Bank will be sponsoring a clean-up in front of their Main Street branch on the Friday before the event. The National Guard is also going to participate in a street sweep of the downtown area before the event. Also, Mr. Clare reported that he is working together with Davison Bolster to have crosswalks repainted on Main and Water Streets before the event, with selected “creative crosswalks” being painted by local artists.

Ms. Dionne reported that the Warren Arts Initiative, headed by Paula Silva and Jill Culora, will organize art pop-ups in vacant store fronts if the EDB contacts the owners for permission to use their properties. Ms. Tucciarone and Mr. Terry agreed to work together to contact the owners of vacant properties.

Ms. Dionne is going to write a letter to Town Council to announce the EDB’s plans to encourage a town clean up. The board had previously discussed making a flyer to distribute to local business owners to announce the event and to encourage a clean-up effort. Ms. Dionne to write the flyer and Ms. Volino will organize the distribution of the fliers to local businesses.

Mr. Lombardi and Ms. Lichatz said that they will work with Caroline Wells to have a new sign made for town hall, and Ms. Lichatz will continue to work on planning landscaping for the town hall façade.

Ms. Tuccciarone reported that she is in contact with Roger Williams University regarding a student intern program that would work with the EDB. Also, the board agreed to continue to discuss future goals for the town of Warren, in particular to identify the types of businesses that Warren needs to attract and support. Ms. Dionne agreed to send Ms. Demars a copy of the EDB work plan.

Due to St. Patrick's Day, the next meeting of the EDB is scheduled for Tuesday, March 25, 2014.

A motion was made to adjourn by Ms. Dionne, the motion was seconded by Ms. Volino, and all members were in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kristin M. MacDonald  
March 24, 2014

